EXHIBIT 14
DATE Jan. 16, 2015
HB 5

BUCKHOUSE BRIDGE OUTFALL-STORMWATER TREATMENT RETROFIT

The Bitterroot River is valued for its abundant public fishing and boating opportunities. As a navigable stream in western Montana with easy take-outs and put-ins, it is a popular public use area. The corridor will also be home to a new trail system which will connect the City of Missoula to a 45-mile trail to Hamilton by 2016. Many public complaints have been received regarding pollutants entering the river and exposure to the public river users at the Buckhouse Bridge river access point.

Two very busy commercial four-lane highways are served by a piped stormwater conveyance that terminates in an under-sized detention basin. This small basin creates an anaerobic environment that retains some amount of sediment which is then re-suspended and flushed into the river upon each subsequent rain event. This project seeks to retrofit this stormwater system with a Hydrodynamic Separator to remove sediment, metals, debris, oil and grease. This treatment device will reduce contaminants entering the river with a cost effective solution.

The Bitterroot River is a listed impaired waterbody for lead, sediment, temperature and alteration of streamside covers. Analysis of pond sediments this spring shows lead levels elevated above background as well as copper and zinc. Semi-annual stormwater sampling since 2007 have shown numerous exceedances in DEQ-established standard stormwater values. Exceedances that will be addressed by this project include, copper, nitrogen, phosphorous, oil and grease, zinc, chemical oxygen demand and total suspended solids.

This project will preserve the natural resource benefits of the Bitterroot River and develop public health and safety improvement by removing a mosquito-breeding, bacteria-laden, anaerobic pond from proximity of a walking trail and removing contaminant sources to the Bitterroot River. It will enhance the economic values that the Bitterroot River brings to western Montana.